

1st Kings

12:11 Whereas my father laid on you a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke:
my father chastised you with whips,
but I will chastise you with scorpions.



1 Kings 1-11 – Solo Solomon



1 Kings 12-14 – Rebellious Rehoboam

1 Kings 15-17 – Asa's Ascendancy

1 Kings 18 – Elijah's Exhibition

1 Kings 19 – Elijah's Escape
& Exit



Alternate Title

Rebellious Rehoboam

Like Father

Like Son



1 Kings 12-14 ~ Rebellious Rehoboam

Fragment of the wall painting of
Rehoboam in the Great Council
Chamber of Basel Town Hall
c. 1520



1 Kings 12-14 ~ Rebellious Rehoboam

Imagine **YOU** inheriting Elon Musk's 200 Billion Dollars
IF I did at 20 years old ... I wouldn't be alive today ... I'm certain
Crashed my Lamborghini
Rehoboam **INHERITED**
MORE

Yet ... sadly ...
only to make the people's
lives more miserable ...



Fragment of the wall painting of
Rehoboam in the Great Council
Chamber of Basel Town Hall, c. 1520

1 Kings 12-14 ~ Rebellious Rehoboam

Imagine ... the Spoiled
Rottenness of Rehoboam

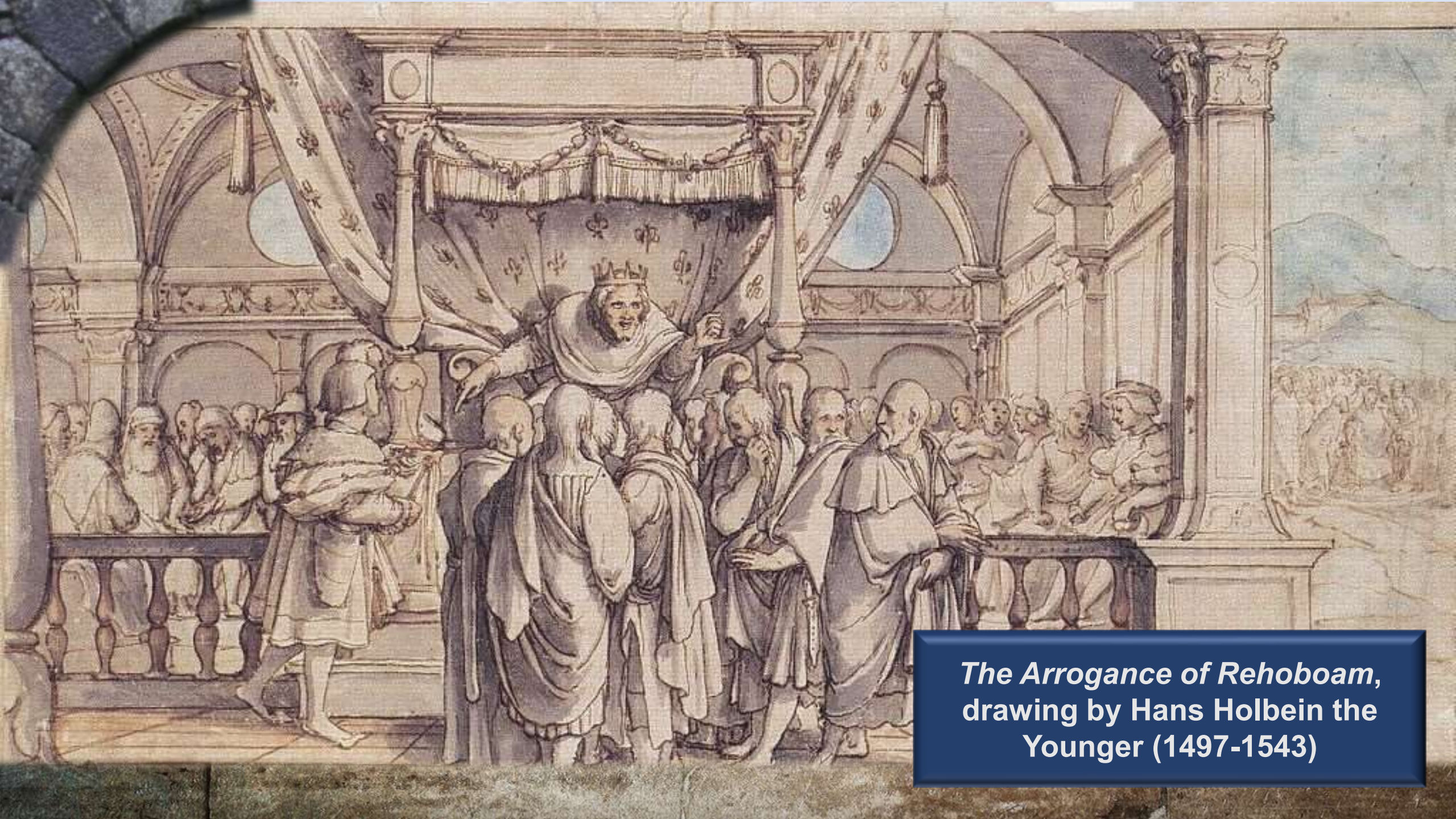
Last King of United Kingdom

He would lead Southern 2 Tribes
of Judah & Benjamin

Jeroboam then led the
Northern 10 Tribes

The Arrogance of Rehoboam,
drawing by Hans Holbein the
Younger (1497-1543)

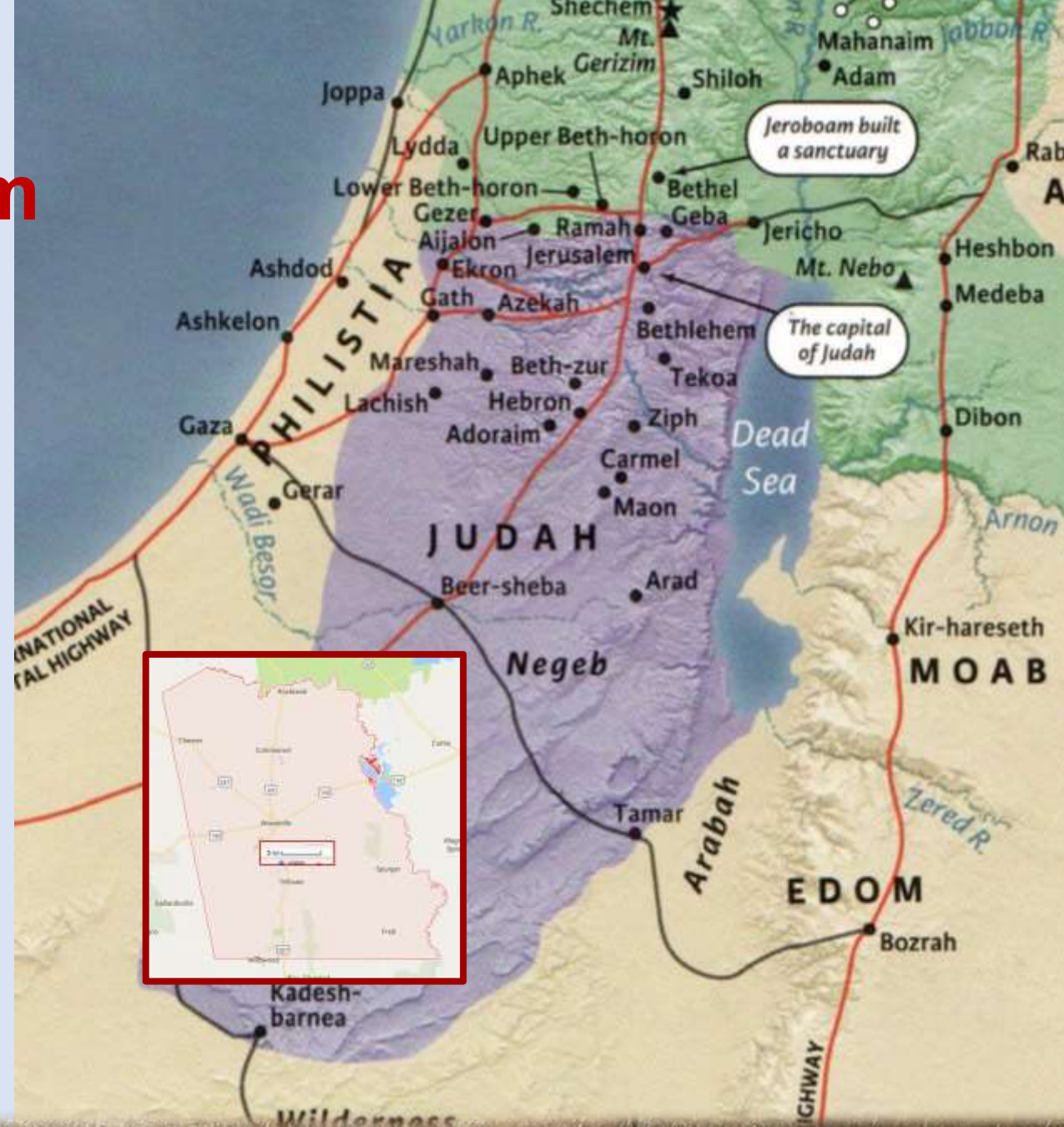




The Arrogance of Rehoboam,
drawing by Hans Holbein the
Younger (1497-1543)

Map of Divided Kingdom

Remember ... Judah
is just over twice the
size of Tyler County



Jeroboam Sacrificing to Idols

by Jean-Honoré Fragonard
1732-1806

Won the Prix de Rome for
painting on 26 August 1752

@ 20 years old



Rebellious Rehoboam

Rehoboam goes to Shechem

1 Kings 12 & 2 Chronicles 10 ~ *almost identical*

People ask for relief ...

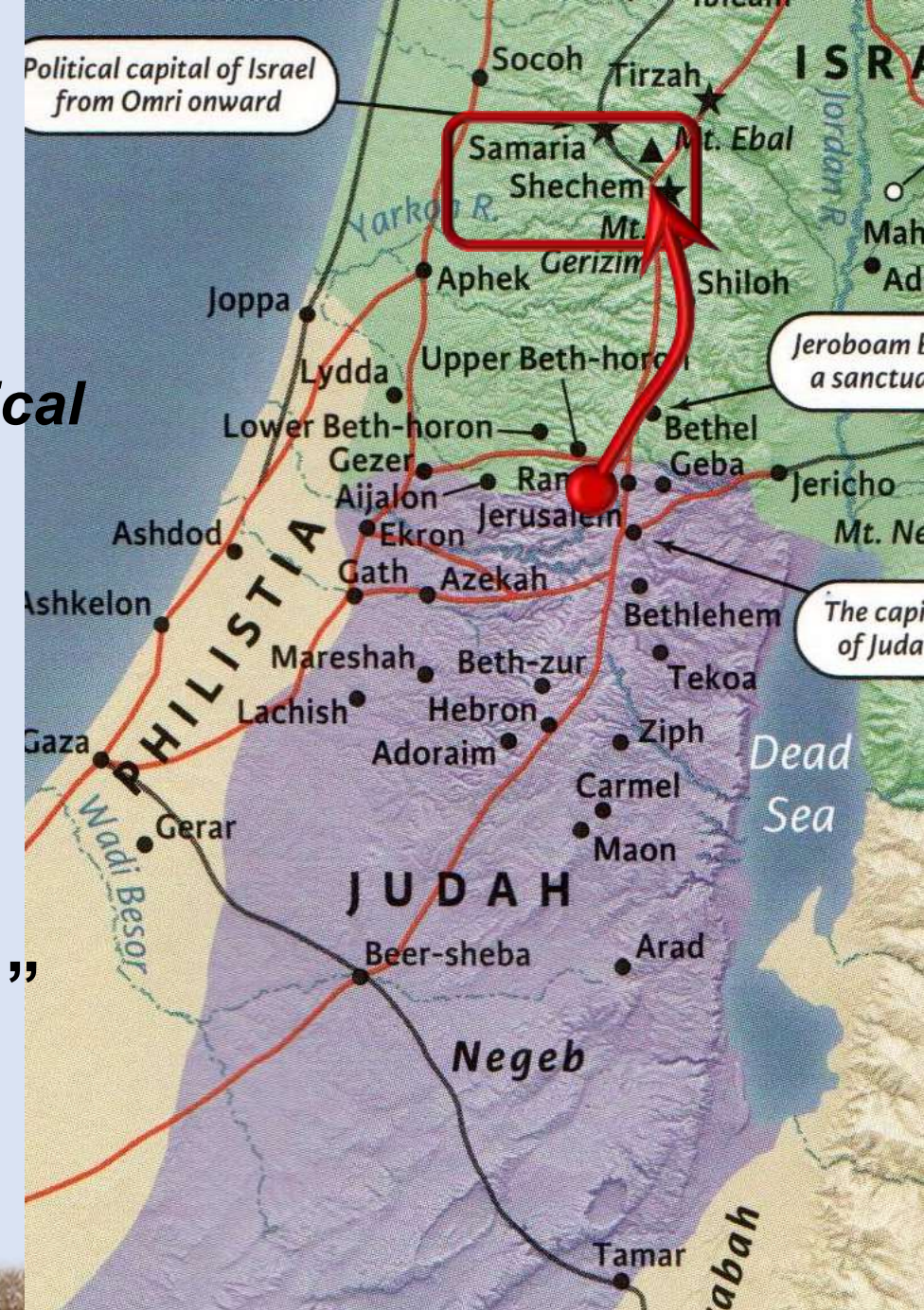
“come back in 3 days”

Rehoboam consults with Elders ...

they ask for **Relief**

Rehoboam consults with young “*friends*”

Increase Burden



Rebellious Rehoboam

Absent from 1 Kings and 2 Chronicles is the
Childhood of Rehoboam ... doubtlessly a

Spoiled Childhood



We can only speculate on Solo Solomon's affections

Only speculate on how many sons & daughters Solomon had

Only speculate on how **Rehoboam became Heir of All**

Perhaps as a child ... watching his father King Solomon ...

Wiseest Richest in the World

**Solomon's
son
Rehoboam
wanted
to be like
his Daddy**

Rebellious Rehoboam

After Solo Solomon's will was read ...

10 Young men that he grew up with him said,

Thus shalt thou speak unto this people
that spake unto thee, saying,

Thy father made our yoke heavy, but make thou *it* lighter unto us;
thus shalt thou say unto them,

My little *finger* shall be thicker than my father's loins.

That's the KJV version ...

Don't really want to elaborate on that ...



Rebellious Rehoboam

Furthermore, the young men advised

**11 And now whereas my father
laid on you a heavy yoke,**

I will add to your yoke:

my father hath chastised you with whips,

but I will chastise you with scorpions.

What a spoiled rotten evil callous no good ...

and so ... the people rebelled



Rehoboam sends Adoniram ...
who was over tribute & forced labor
12:18 ... but all Israel stoned him to death.

Kingdom now divided > North is Israel
South is Judah & Benjamin

Rehoboam musters 180,000 to **attack Israel**

Shemaiah, man of God, said the Lord says,

Do not go up to fight against your brothers

12:25 Then Jeroboam fortified Shechem ... two Golden Calves

Jeroboam builds altars in Israel to **distract from Jerusalem**



Rebellious Rehoboam

I can imagine Solo Solomon looking down

From Heaven

Thinking ... perhaps grieving ...

Wishing ... hoping ... wondering ...

IF ... **IF** ... **IF** ... only I had taken little Rehoboam fishing

IF ... **IF** ... **IF** ... I had only read to him at bedtime

IF ... **IF** ... I had only spent **MORE** time with

Little Rehoboam





**Rehoboam
Grew Up
WITHOUT
Solomon**

**Rehoboam
Found New
*FRIENDS?***

1 Kings 13 ... interestingly

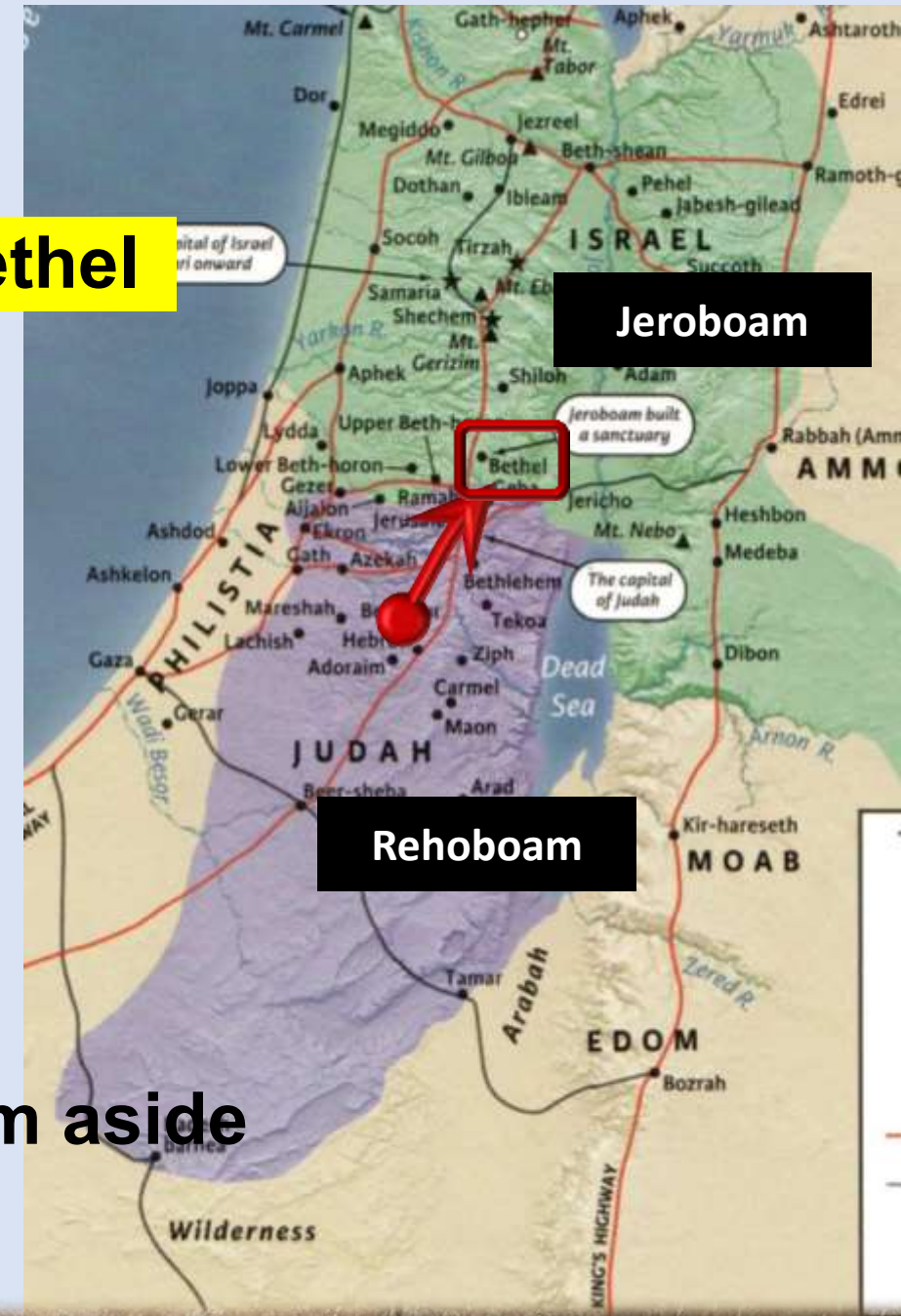
Man of God from Judah to **Jeroboam in Bethel**

13:4 Jeroboam ... stretched out his
hand ... and said, "Seize him!"
But the hand he stretched out
shriveled up
so that he could not pull it back.

Man of God ***LISTENED*** to God and
took another way home.

Old prophet found Man of God ... turned him aside

Lion kills Man of God for not ***listening***



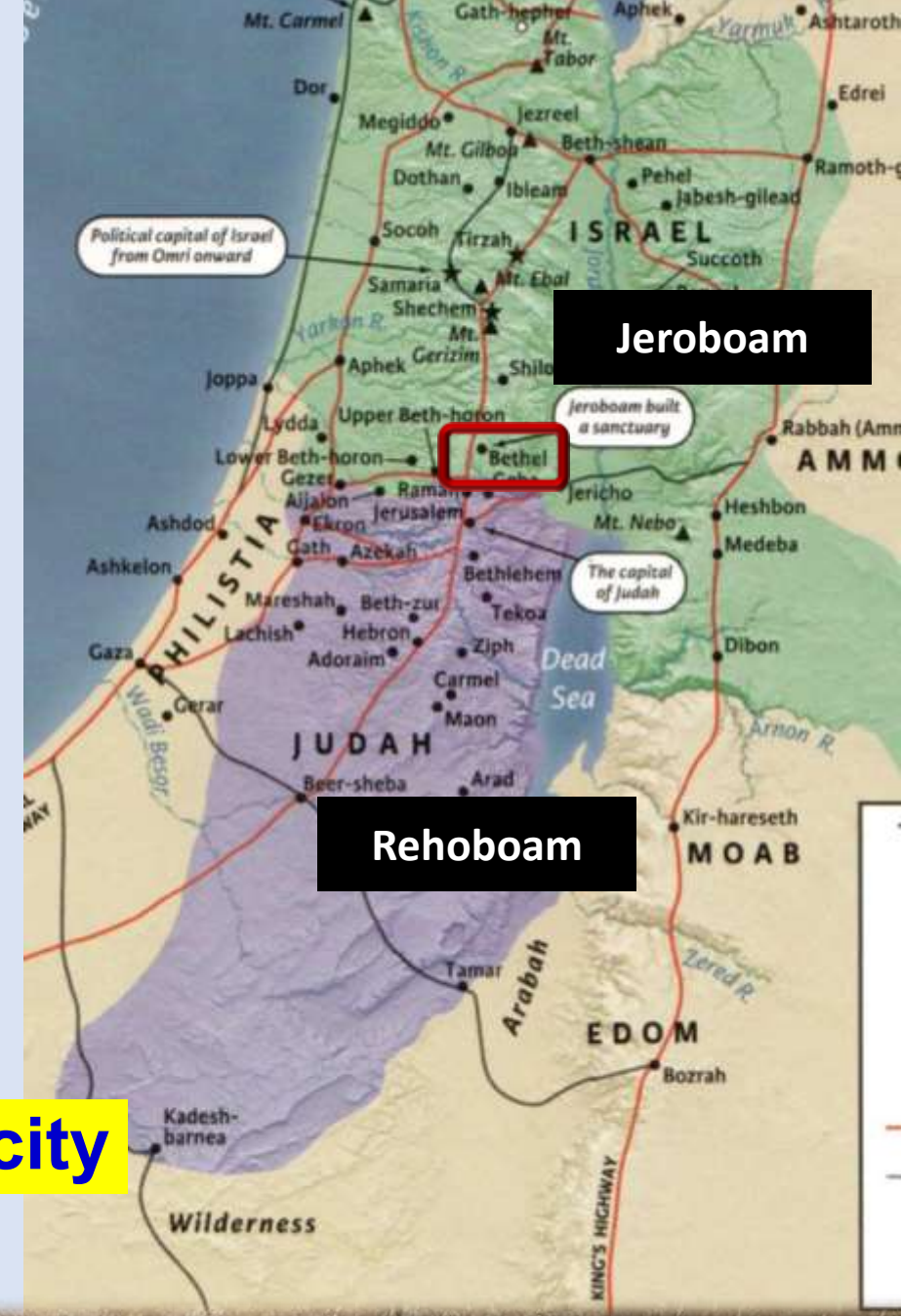
1 Kings 14 ... Blind Ahijah

Jeroboam's son is ill, sends wife to the blind Prophet Ahijah to get help

14:9 You have done more evil than all who lived before you.... made for yourself other gods, idols made of metal; you have aroused my anger and turned your back on me.

I will burn up the house of Jeroboam as one burns dung, until it is all gone.

14:11 Dogs will eat those ... who die in the city



1 Kings 14:21-31 Rehoboam's *evil*

14:23-24 high places, sacred stones

Asherah poles on every high hill and
under every spreading tree.

male shrine prostitutes in the land ...
engaged in all the detestable practices
of the nations the Lord had driven out

14:26 Shishak king of Egypt attacked Jerusalem

Shishak takes ALL temple & palace treasure
2 Chron > Shemaiah to Rehoboam LORD says:

“You have forsaken Me; therefore,
I have forsaken you into the hand of Shishak.”



1 Kings 14:29-30

As for the other events of Rehoboam's reign, and all he did, are they not written in the book of the annals of the kings of Judah?

30 There was continual warfare between
Rehoboam and Jeroboam.

2 Chronicles 12:15 says it like this

Now the acts of Rehoboam, from first to last, are they not written in the records of Shemaiah the Prophet and of Iddo the Seer concerning the genealogies?

So Much Missing



**Both Rehoboam & Jeroboam
turned into Spiritual Scoundrels ...**

Traitors to God ... but look closely

***IF* ... *IF* ... *IF* Rehoboam had been faithful ...**

***Then* Jeroboam would have followed too ...**

See the chain of influence clearly

How did Solomon CHARGE his SON Rehoboam? ... *NOTHING!*

1 Kings 11, before he died, Solomon tried to *KILL* Jeroboam ...

Jeroboam fled to Egypt ... when Solomon died, Jeroboam returned

But Rehoboam was too spoiled with his "*FRIENDS*" to see



David Charged Solomon

Solomon had nothing to do with his son
Solomon's failing of Rehoboam ... leads to the
Rebellion of Jeroboam and the kingdom splits
Egyptian Shishak raids spoiled brat Rehoboam's Judah
Chaos rules between Israel & Judah for 400 more years ... to Exile
What COULD have Solomon said to Rehoboam?
Perhaps nothing ... because Solo Solomon's LIFE Example

Appears the Future was NOT *on* Solomon's Heart

Appears his favored Son was NOT *in* Solomon's Heart



Kingdom Divided Against Itself

Solomon looks down from

Heaven



Perhaps ... just perhaps ... Solomon was WISE

Just not WISE enough to see how Rehoboam would turn out

We look back 3,000 years and see this CLEARLY ...

It is so very sad ... **IF** ... **IF** ... **IF** ... only Solo Solomon had ...

Appears the Future was NOT **on** Solomon's **Heart**

Appears his favored Son was NOT **in** Solomon's **Heart**



**Rehoboam
Grew Up
Too Busy
To Care**

IF ... IF ... IF ... only

Today ... we look down the concourse of time
We do the best we can ... for those we LOVE
What COULD have Solomon said to Rehoboam?



Oh my ... that is so ***WRONG*** ... it is not what Solomon ***“SAID”***
How ***COULD*** have Solomon ***LIVED*** before Rehoboam?

IF Solomon had been faithful to God ... *then*

IF Solomon had been less a businessman & more a ***FAMILY*** man

IF Solomon had been a much better ***EXAMPLE*** ... *then*

IF ... IF ... IF

There is a poem from a Father to a Son

Seems to capture what we WISH Solomon had been

Rudyard Kipling (1865–1936) won the Noble Prize in Literature in 1907, the youngest recipient.

He wrote ***IF*** as a tribute to Leander Starr Jameson's disciplined character in 1920*

13th poem of 23 woven into a fantasy of contemporary life.

“***IF***” has been called *Britain's Poem* ...

been quoted by presidents ~ heads of state ~ others



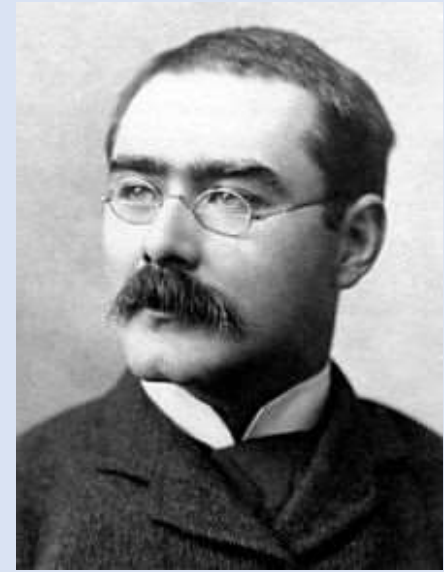
*See Christopher Benfey's *IF: The Untold Story of Kipling's American Years* (Penguin, 2019; 256 pp.) on Kipling's ten years in America 1889–1899.

IF ... IF ... IF

by Rudyard Kipling (1865–1936)

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;

If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

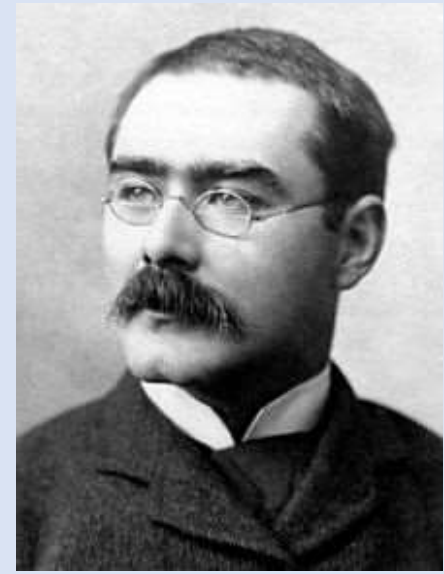


IF ... IF ... IF

by Rudyard Kipling (1865–1936)

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same;

If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

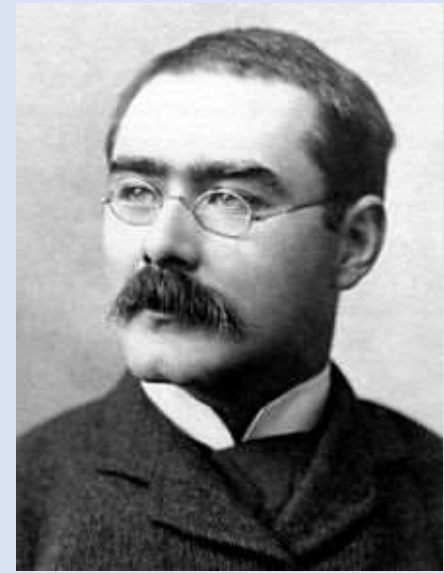


IF ... IF ... IF

by Rudyard Kipling (1865–1936)

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;

If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'



IF ... IF ... IF

by Rudyard Kipling (1865–1936)

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;

If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!*



2 Chronicles 7:14 – after Solomon dedicated the Temple ... God appeared to him at night

***IF* my people,
which are called by my name,
shall humble themselves, and pray,
and seek my face,
and turn from their wicked ways;
then will I hear from heaven,
and will forgive their sin,
and will heal their land.**

